From: Jonathan Herington
To: Jonathan Herington;
Subject: Biosecurity News 05
Date: Friday, 27 June 2008 2:39:21 PM

The University of Sydney

University of Sydney Biosecurity Program

BIOSECURITY NEWS 05

27 June 2008

Contents

1. Program News
2. Conferences, Seminars and Journal Issues
3. News and Articles
- Avian and Pandemic Influenza
- HIV
- Emerging Infectious Diseases
- Biological Weapons
- Biosecurity Policy and Ethics
    - Global Health Governance

The University of Sydney Biosecurity Program is coordinated by the Centre for International Security Studies.

CENTRE for INTERNATIONAL SECURITY STUDIES

If you received this email as a forward and wish to subscribe to future issues of Biosecurity News, please contact Jon Herington (j.herington@econ.usyd.edu.au)

---

1. Program News

An administrative note:

A lot of the articles aggregated here are the result of tip offs sourced from blogs, news readers and other 'non-academic' sources. Therefore, I have a policy of endeavouring to track down the original article or report when I notice something of interest. While this usually ensures that the linked information provided here is accurate, free from extra commentary and usually stable over long periods of time (a pertinent issue for web-based research), it does have its downsides. In particular, those readers who are part of organisations not affiliated with large institutions might not have subscriptions to many of the articles I link to (this is a particular problem for articles from *The Lancet*, *Science*, and the *New England Journal of Medicine*).

If you are part of those organisations, and it is frustrating you, let me know and I will endeavour to post a link to an accessible summary like a blog or news story – albeit with a slightly less academic or 'citation-friendly' tone.

Jon

---

2. Conferences, Seminars and Journal Issues

The **Centre for Health and International Relations (CHAIR)** at the University of Abersytwyth is holding a Summer School – **The Global Politics of Health: Ideas, Institutions and Policies** – on the **10-12 of September 2008**. As our friends at CHAIR describe it:

"The Summer School - The Global Politics of Health: Ideas, Institutions and Policies - will bring together leading practitioners and academics from International Relations and Public Health to teach a new and innovative programme on the economic and political drivers of global health and reforms to national health systems. The course encompasses the key institutions generating health policies at the international level; health governance; security and infectious diseases; economism, the World Bank and the IMF. The course also deals with international health regulations and health professional mobility and health professional governance. The course is targeted at those working in health services keen to build on their knowledge of the global context of their profession; civil society and government workers engaged in major health issues and academics researching in these areas."

More information regarding cost and registration can be obtained from CHAIR's website: http://www.aber.ac.uk/interpol/en/research/chair.htm and from the following brochure http://www.aber.ac.uk/interpol/en/research/10417-booklet.pdf

- - - - -

A new issue of **Biosecurity and Bioterrorism** has been published: http://www.liebertonline.com/toc/bsp/6/2

- - - - -

Our colleagues at the Australian National University are running a series of Research and Innovation Policy Dialogue Workshops – including one on '**Supporting Risk Aware Research'** which includes discussion of the risk inherent in research and the policy options to mitigate those risks. The workshop will be held on the **11 July 2008** at ANU in Canberra. More info can be found at: http://repp.anu.edu.au/ripp/ (second workshop listed)

- - - - -

Previous Announcements

- *Understanding and Controlling Infectious Diseases: An Agenda for the 21st Century*. Abstracts: **14 September 2008**. Conference: **11-13 November 2008** More info: http://www.pasteur.fr/infosci/conf/sb/clp7

- *BioSecure 2008*. Abstracts: **15 August 2008**. Workshop: **2 December 2008**. More info: http://ai.arizona.edu/BIO2008/

---

3. News and Articles

Avian Influenza

The Economist analyses the recent Hong Kong and Guangdong HPAI outbreaks
26 June 2008
http://www.economist.com/world/asia/displaystory.cfm?story_id=11622415

Indonesian Health Minister suggests NAMRU-2 is 'of no benefit'
25 June 2008
http://www.antara.co.id/en/arc/2008/6/25/namru-2-is-of-no-benefit-to-indonesia-outspoken-minister-says/
in contrast to her Defence colleague
http://www.antara.co.id/en/arc/2008/6/27/tni-chief-suggests-govt-renegotiate-namru-2/

Multivalent HA DNA vaccine shows promising signs of HPAI protection in chickens and mice
25 June 2008
http://www.plosone.org/article/info%3Adoi%2F10.1371%2Fjournal.pone.0002432

'Health leaders: World far from ready for flu pandemic'
23 June 2008
http://www.cidrap.umn.edu/cidrap/content/influenza/panflu/news/jun2308unprepared.html

Lancet ID produces a research brief on two recent studies into H5N1 reassortment
23 June 2008
http://www.thelancet.com/journals/laninf/article/PIIS1473309908701464/

'Global preparations for an avian influenza pandemic'
23 June 2008
http://www.thelancet.com/journals/laninf/article/PIIS1473309908701373/

'Bird flu vaccines not subject to uniform testing'
23 June 2008
http://www.ctv.ca/servlet/ArticleNews/story/CTVNews/20080623/bird_flu_080623/20080623

UK bird flu outbreak under control, control zones to be dismantled
18 June 2008
http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/uk_news/england/oxfordshire/7462082.stm

Australia pre-approves an H5N1 vaccine-adjuvant mixture (Panvax) for use in pandemic
17 June 2008
http://www.abc.net.au/news/stories/2008/06/17/2277310.htm
http://news.theage.com.au/national/australia-has-bird-flu-vaccine-govt-20080617-2rz6.html

Bird flu in Vietnam is 'temporarily under control' according to officials
17 June 2008
http://english.vietnamnet.vn/tech/2008/06/788893/

60 million H5N1 flu vaccine shots donated to WHO
16 June 2008
http://www.reuters.com/article/rbssHealthcareNews/idUSL1672359120080616

'Armed forces could not help civilians in flu pandemic'
14 June 2008
http://www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/news/politics/article4133451.ece

'Indonesian government mum as AP reports H5N1 case'
13 June 2008
http://www.cidrap.umn.edu/cidrap/content/influenza/avianflu/news/jun1308indo.html

HIV

Red Cross/Crescent recommends HIV be classified as a 'disaster'
26 June 2008
http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/health/7474600.stm

and the full report:
http://www.ifrc.org/publicat/wdr2008/summaries.asp

Tomorrow is National HIV Testing Day in the US
26 June 2008
http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm5725a1.htm

Annual new HIV infections in the US is likely 10,000 more cases than official estimates
23 June 2008
http://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140673608608922/

'HIV/AIDS estimates and the quest for universal access'
23 June 2008
http://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140673608607321/

Commission on HIV/AIDS in Africa release their report, entitled "Securing Our Future"
9 June 2008
http://www.uneca.org/chga/report_launch.htm

Emerging Infectious Diseases
Interesting study on virus transfer from PPE to healthcare worker's skin
25 June 2008
http://www.cdc.gov/eid/content/14/8/pdfs/08-0085.pdf

Review of epidemic Typhus from the *Lancet ID*
23 June 2008
http://www.thelancet.com/journals/laninf/article/PIIS1473309908701506/abstract

Non-communicable diseases the major long-term global threat?
23 June 2008
http://www.thelancet.com/journals/laninf/article/PIIS1473309908701427/
sourcing the introduction to the 2008 World Health Statistics Report
http://www.who.int/whosis/whostat/2008/en/index.html

MRSA no longer a predominantly nosocomial infection?
23 June 2008
http://www.thelancet.com/journals/laninf/article/PIIS1473309908701397/

'Research organisations join forces to develop treatments for neglected infectious diseases'
21 June 2008
http://www.bmj.com/cgi/content/full/336/7658/1396-a

'Severe Vivax Malaria: Newly Recognised or Rediscovered?'
17 June 2008
http://medicine.plosjournals.org/perlserv/?request=get-document&doi=10.1371%2Fjournal.pmed.0050136&ct=1

ASEAN launches an EID information sharing website
17 June 2008
http://afp.google.com/article/ALeqM5gxWouyBewMhCxKflugDN2vkB2YuA
and the site
http://www.aseanplus3-eid.info/

Biological Weapons
US State Department holds a global biological-chemical training event
24 June 2008
http://www.state.gov/t/isn/rls/rm/106214.htm

A new case of Ricin possession and manufacture, in Ireland
24 June 2008
http://www.nti.org/d_newswire/issues/2008_6_24.html#DA16894A

'Senate bill would alter biosafety, select agent rules'
20 June 2008
http://www.sciencemag.org/cgi/content/full/320/5883/1573
and analysis from the Federation of American Scientists
http://www.fas.org/blog/ssp/2008/06/select-agent-program-regulations-and-high-containment-laboratories.php

Creation of de novo synthetic enzymes
http://www.cosmosmagazine.com/features/online/2053/enzymes-made-order
and the reports on the two synthetic enzymes:
http://www.nature.com/nature/journal/v453/n7192/full/nature06879.html
http://www.sciencemag.org/cgi/content/abstract/319/5868/1387

Report on the US National Biodefense Board meeting
19 June 2008
http://www.fas.org/blog/ssp/2008/06/national-biodefense-science-board-meeting.php

US Biodefense budget cuts funding for hospitals and public health
19 June 2008
http://www.aaas.org/news/releases/2008/0619biosecurity.shtml

64% of Indian scientists say they would refuse to design biological weapons
15 June 2008
http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/Indian_scientists_firm_believers/rssarticleshow/3130734.cms
http://english.people.com.cn/90001/90777/90851/6431134.html

The Apple Ipod's license agreement prevents its use for the creation of WMD
12 June 2008
http://www.newscientist.com/blog/technology/2008/06/always-read-small-print.html

Biosecurity Policy and Ethics
'Boost biosafety funding to cut risks, say UK officials'
25 June 2008
http://www.nature.com/news/2008/080625/full/4531156b.html
http://www.guardian.co.uk/science/2008/jun/25/medicalresearch.footandmouth
and the two volume Parliamentary Review of the UK's high containment labs (PDF):
http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200708/cmselect/cmdius/360/360i.pdf
http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200708/cmselect/cmdius/360/360ii.pdf

The Bulletin of the Atomic Scientist's online roundtable on biowarfare threats continues:
24 June 2008
http://www.thebulletin.org/web-edition/roundtables/the-expanding-range-of-biowarfare-threats

US Homeland Security suggests new biodefense lab poses 'minimal' risk
23 June 2008
http://www.nti.org/d_newswire/issues/2008_6_23.html#2228DF3B
and the original 1000 page impact statement:
http://www.dhs.gov/xres/labs/gc_1187734676776.shtm

Duct-tape used to seal doors at CDC high containment lab
22 June 2008
http://www.ajc.com/metro/content/printedition/2008/06/22/cdclab.html

'A graduate student oath'
20 June 2008
http://www.sciencemag.org/cgi/content/full/320/5883/1587b

'The security impact of the neurosciences'
20 June 2008
http://www.thebulletin.org/web-edition/features/the-security-impact-of-the-neurosciences

'Promoting Mutual Security and Development through Bioscience Cooperation'
18 June 2008
http://www.fas.org/blog/ssp/2008/06/promoting-mutual-security-and-development-through-bioscience-cooperation.php

'UK universities in bed with the military'
18 June 2008
http://www.nature.com/news/2008/080618/full/453967a.html

Healthcare workers will be first to receive Australian vaccine stocks in a pandemic (from above Panvax links)
17 June 2008
http://news.theage.com.au/national/australia-has-bird-flu-vaccine-govt-20080617-2rz6.html

'How evil can prevail in state-sanctioned biowarfare research'
16 June 2008
http://www.thebulletin.org/web-edition/columnists/laura-h-kahn/how-evil-can-prevail-state-sanctioned-biowarfare-research

Global Health Governance
Open source software helps manage patient care in Africa
24 June 2008
http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/technology/7470888.stm
and
http://openmrs.org/wiki/OpenMRS

Evaluation of the Stop TB program
23 June 2008
http://www.thelancet.com/journals/laninf/article/PIIS1473309908701312/

Health spending in Europe – politics and health outcomes
21 June 2008
http://www.bmj.com/cgi/content/full/336/7658/1390

'Measuring deaths from conflict'
19 June 2008

http://www.bmj.com/cgi/content/full/bmj.a146v1
further commentary:
http://www.nature.com/news/2008/080619/full/news.2008.901.html
http://www.bmj.com/cgi/content/full/336/7659/1446
and the research it refers to:
http://www.bmj.com/cgi/content/full/bmj.a137v1

'Sub-national burden of disease studies: Mexico leads the way'
17 June 2008
http://medicine.plosjournals.org/perlserv/?request=get-document&doi=10.1371%2Fjournal.pmed.0050138

'Public Health in the Wake of Disasters: An Overlooked Security Issue'
16 June 2008
http://newsecuritybeat.blogspot.com/2008/06/public-health-in-wake-of-disasters.html
and,
A report from inside Burma
21 June 2008
http://www.bmj.com/cgi/content/full/336/7658/1399-f

Best wishes and happy researching,

Jon

If you received this email as a forward and wish to subscribe to future issues of Biosecurity News, please contact Jon Herington (j.herington@econ.usyd.edu.au)

Jonathan Herington | Project Officer (Biosecurity)
Centre for International Security Studies

FACULTY OF ECONOMICS AND BUSINESS
Room 466 | Merewether Building (H04)
The University of Sydney | NSW | 2006

p +61 2 9351 5739 | **e** j.herington@econ.usyd.edu.au
w http://ciss.econ.usyd.edu.au